U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management White River Field Office 73544 Hwy 64 Meeker, CO 81641

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

NUMBER: CO-110-2006-024-EA

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: amend COC 34348 and COC37824

PROJECT NAME: 5 power lines to Chevron wells

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Sixth Principal Meridian
T. 2S., R. 103 W.,
Sec. 15, NW¹/₄NE¹/₄, NE¹/₄SW¹/₄.

APPLICANT: Moon Lake Electric

ISSUES AND CONCERNS: The applications for these power lines were received October 31, 2005. However, White River Field Office staff was investigating potential trespass by Moon Lake (i.e. construction of unauthorized lines in the Rangely Field). On November 8, 2005, Moon Lake was informed that BLM would hold these applications until the trespass was resolved, as per 43CFR 2888.11. Trespass case COC69318 was opened November 8, 2005 and Moon Lake was informed by certified letter 7004-2510-0005-8116-3379 on that date. Trespass case COC69318 was resolved and closed January 20, 2006. MC Hagood A16X was separated from this EA and analyzed as CO-110-2006-077-DNA.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES:

Background/Introduction: The MC Hagood A15X, A17X, and A18X power line routes were discussed with a BLM biologist at an onsite in June, 2005 with Chevron and Moon Lake. On February 9, we received an application for two additional wells; MC McLaughlin 84Y and Lacy 13Y. On-sites were conducted on February 2, 2006. The APDs were analyzed in EA 05-099 and approved. Because the power lines are in the same area and can be analyzed at the same time, they were incorporated into this EA.

Proposed Action: Moon Lake proposes to construct overhead power line extensions from existing lines to serve 5 wells in the Chevron Field. The MC Hagood wells were analyzed in EA 05-158 and the APDs were approved. Maps (Exhibit A) are attached and incorporated by reference. Wells A15X and A17X are adjacent to each other. The table below identifies the project extensions:

Well Number	Length of Extension	Area of work disturbance	Area of ROW
MC Hagood A15X	400 feet	0.459 acres	0.184 acres
MC Hagood A17X	See A15X		
MC Hagood A18X	1100 feet	1.263 acres	0.510 acres
MC McLaughlin 84Y	300 feet	0.344 acres	0.138 acres
Lacy 13Y	300 feet	0.344 acres	0.138 acres
	2100 feet	2.410 acres	0.970 acres

The projects will be overhead, three phase, 12.5kV lines. The structures will consist of single wood poles with cross arms supporting aluminum conductors. Poles are spaced 300 to 400 feet apart. Access will be from existing roads and along the right-of-way. The construction crew will consist of 4 men using bucket trucks, a digger truck, a backhoe, and utility pickups. No blade work will be required. Rubber tired vehicles will be used for construction. All surface disturbances will be confined to the right-of-way. Excavation will take place only for the holes where the poles and anchors will be placed.

Construction activities will not be performed when soil conditions are too wet to adequately support vehicles and equipment. If equipment creates ruts in excess of three inches deep, all construction or maintenance will be postponed until conditions are suitable. The only environmental impacts would be the surface disturbance where the new poles will be placed in the ground and the visibility of the additional overhead line. Because the new lines will be in the Rangely oil field which now has numerous power lines and oil well facilities, the additional visual impacts will be minimal. Wood poles and non-reflective conductors will be used. Impacts on plants and wildlife will be minimal. Raptor protection is incorporated in the structure design and raptor deterrence will be added if required by the BLM.

Moon Lake will do all rehabilitation as required by BLM and growth of weeds and other vegetation will be controlled around the lines at all times. If use of the power line is discontinued for a period of one year or longer and is no longer needed in the future, Moon Lake will remove it at their expense and will restore the right-or-way, as much a possible, to its original condition.

Any open holes left overnight will be covered with planks to protect people and wildlife from injury. Moon Lake Electric will keep the power lines in safe and usable condition at all times in accordance with the National Electrical Safety Code. There will be no PCBs or any hazardous material used in the construction, operation, or maintenance of these power lines.

Moon Lake Electric is an equal opportunity employer and will not exclude any person from employment due to race, creed, color, national origin, or disability. Moon Lake Electric employees, contractors, and agents will protect all public survey monuments and markers from disturbance.

Moon Lake is asking for a temporary construction right-of-way of 50 feet for the Chevron Field projects. The permanent rights-of-way will be 20 feet wide. The lines will be used year around and a 30 year term is requested. Authorization will be by amending the COC34348 for the MC Hagood A15X, A17X, A18X. The Lacy 13Y and MM McLaughlin 84Y will be authorized by amendment to COC37824. Each project will take 2 to 3 days and will be completed within 60 days of BLM approval.

No Action Alternative: The power lines would not be authorized and there would be no additional impacts from this proposal.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT NOT CARRIED FORWARD:

NEED FOR THE ACTION: The purpose of the project is to provide electrical service to wells in the Chevron Field where it is needed to operate the wells and facilities.

<u>PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW</u>: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with the following plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3):

Name of Plan: White River Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP).

Date Approved: July 1, 1997

<u>Decision Number/Page</u>: Pages 2-49 thru 2-52

<u>Decision Language</u>: "To make public lands available for the siting of public and private facilities through the issuance of applicable land use authorizations, in a manner that provides for reasonable protection of other resource values."

<u>AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT / ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES / MITIGATION MEASURES:</u>

STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC LAND HEALTH: In January 1997, Colorado Bureau of Land Management (BLM) approved the Standards for Public Land Health. These standards cover upland soils, riparian systems, plant and animal communities, threatened and endangered species, and water quality. Standards describe conditions needed to sustain public land health and relate to all uses of the public lands. Because a standard exists for these five categories, a finding must be made for each of them in an environmental analysis. These findings are located in specific elements listed below:

CRITICAL ELEMENTS

AIR QUALITY

Affected Environment: The entire White River Resource area has been classified as either attainment or unclassified for all pollutants, and most of the area has been designated prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) class II. The proposed action is located approximately 6.5 miles southeast of Dinosaur Natl. Monument Visitor Center which is a Class II airshed with special designations regarding visibility. The proposed action alone should not greatly compromise National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) on an hourly or daily basis.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Much of the required access along the proposed power line extensions will follow existing roads. Surface disturbance will be minimal and adverse impacts to air quality should not be expected.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: Re-vegetate disturbed areas with a BLM approved seed mixture as outlined in the vegetation section of this document.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Affected Environment: The proposed power lines are located in the Rangely Oil Field which is covered by an inventory (Larralde 1981, Compliance Dated 2/18/1981) and is also covered by an agreement with the Colorado SHPO. There are no recorded cultural resources in the proposed power line areas.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed power lines will not impact any known cultural resources.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no new impacts to cultural resources under the No Action Alternative.

Mitigation: 1. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:

- whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not necessary)
- a timeframe for the AO to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800-11 to confirm, through the State Historic Preservation Officer, that the findings of the AO are correct and that mitigation is appropriate.

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or

the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

2. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) the holder of this authorization must notify the AO, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer.

INVASIVE, NON-NATIVE SPECIES

Affected Environment: The proposed action is located within Alkaline Slope and Clayey Saltdesert ecological sites, which are dominated by salt tolerant vegetation. The dominate plant community for these sites consist of greasewood, Wyoming big sagebrush, and various saltbrushes such as shadscale, Gardner saltbrush, mat saltbush, and fourwing saltbrush. The understory of these shrubs is dominated by western wheatgrass, salina wildrye, and squirreltail. Cheatgrass and halogeton are both annual plant species that are undesirable, invasive, and nonnative plants which are present within the locality of the proposed action. Both of these species are highly adapted to disturbed soils.

The soils within the project area are principally Chipeta Silty Clay Loam (Clayey Saltdesert ecological site) and Billings Silty Clay Loam, 0-5% Slopes (Alkaline Slope ecological site). These soil types have a high clay content that is moderate to highly erosive and receives low precipitation with rapid runoff, thus limiting forage production, increasing erosion/sediment runoff, and hampering re-vegetation efforts leading to the potential establishment of invasive species.

Drought conditions, outside of this current year, have been very prevalent within the Coal Oil Basin area, which has hampered the successful establishment of reclaimed plant species of other projects in this area. Therefore, undesirable and invasive annual plant species (i.e. halogeton, cheatgrass) have become dominate in portions of previously disturbed areas which provide little resource value and hinder efforts to meet Public Land Health Standards.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Weed species found in the area are effectively controlled by the establishment of seeded species within disturbed areas. The proposed seed mix from the White River ROD/RMP (Standard Seed Mix #1), which includes non-native species, is recommended because its associated plant species are highly adapted to this site (heavy clay soils) and offer the greatest opportunity to establish vegetation cover. Limiting factors for successful reclamation of the site includes soils with a high clay content, low annual precipitation, drought prone, and cheatgrass establishment on the adjacent rangelands. These mitigated non-native species have demonstrated themselves to have the greatest ability to

establish, provide soil protection, and offer a competitive interaction against invasive, non-native species such as cheatgrass.

Prompt reclamation with successful establishment would help prevent cheatgrass and halogeton from establishing on disturbed sites. If other noxious weeds were to invade the site, prompt control would prevent movement to the adjacent plant communities.

There has been an opportunity for other noxious weed species to be transported onto landscapes associated with the proposed action by the past construction and/or associated support equipment.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: The applicant shall monitor the disturbed and reclaimed areas for the presence of invasive, non-native, and/or noxious plant species that have become established as a result of the proposed action. The applicant will be responsible for controlling cheatgrass, noxious weeds, and/or problem weeds should they occur and/or increase in density as a result of the proposed action.

Upon detection of noxious, non-native, and/or invasive plant species, the applicant will control their presence before seed production using materials and methods as outlined in the White River ROD/RMP and/or authorized in advance by the White River Field Office Manager. Application of herbicides must be under field supervision of an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) certified pesticide applicator. Herbicides must be registered by the EPA and application proposals must be approved by the BLM.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Affected Environment: The project area is encompassed by arid salt desert shrublands consisting principally of shadscale, basin big sage and greasewood. Herbaceous groundcover is comprised mainly of native grasses with moderate densities of halogeton and cheatgrass. These salt desert communities typically support species such as vesper and sage sparrow, western meadowlark, sage thrasher and horned lark. Species associated with these shrubland communities are generally typical and widely represented in appropriate habitat within the Resource Area and region. The majority of disturbance involved in this action is located adjacent to existing roads, an area that typically assumes little to no nesting activity.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Power pole installation associated with this project is expected to be completed in advance of the breeding season and would have no potential to interfere materially with nests. In the unlikely event power line installation should be delayed into the breeding season, it would have minimal impacts on nesting, as all sites are either adjacent to existing roadways (areas that typically assume little nesting activity) or involve relatively little surface disturbance.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no affect on migratory birds or associated habitat under the no action alternative.

Mitigation: See mitigation discussion in T&E Section below.

THREATENED, ENDANGERED, AND SENSITIVE ANIMAL SPECIES (includes a finding on Standard 4)

Affected Environment: The project area is broadly encompassed by white-tailed prairie dog habitat. Prairie dogs and their burrow systems are important components of burrowing owl habitat, as well as potential habitat for reintroduced populations of black-footed ferret. Burrowing owls, a State threatened species, are uncommon in this Resource Area. These birds return to occupy a maintained burrow system in early April and begin nesting soon after. Most birds have left the area by September. While burrowing owls have been documented in Rangely Oil Field, no burrowing owl nesting activity has been recorded near the proposed power lines.

Under the auspices of a non-essential, experimental population rule, black-footed ferrets have been released annually in Coyote Basin (eight miles southwest) and Wolf Creek (13 miles northeast) of Rangely Oil Field since 1999 and 2001, respectively. The rule applies to any ferrets that may occupy or eventually be released in northwest Colorado and northeast Utah. Although there is no direct continuity between Coyote Basin or Wolf Creek and the project site (i.e., lesser physical barriers and habitats unoccupied by prairie dog) there is a strong likelihood that ferrets have colonized and successfully breed in Rangely Oil Field. Ferrets are wholly reliant on prairie dogs for food and shelter. Ferret breeding activities begin in early March, with birthing beginning in early May. Young ferrets generally begin to emerge by mid-July. There have been no verified sightings of ferrets, nor any known reproduction occurring in Rangely Oil Field.

Field visits conducted during June 2005 and February 2006 indicated relatively little involvement with active prairie dog burrows. Construction of these lines will occur prior to the breeding season and would have little potential to disrupt reproductive activities of the three special status species.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Installation of additional power poles may have the potential to increase perching opportunities for raptors (e.g., golden eagle red-tailed and ferruginous hawk) that may prey on prairie dogs. To remedy this, all power poles involved in this action will be conditioned to deter raptor perching (i.e., crossarms and top pole) such that the project does not attract increased raptor use and increase the risk of depredation to prairie dogs.

As mitigated, this project would have no short or long term influence on prairie dog abundance or distribution by itself or as habitat for black-footed ferret or burrowing owl. The proposed power lines encompass a small area in which relatively few single-entrance burrows will be affected. It is highly unlikely that any subsurface disturbance associated with this proposed action would intersect a prairie dog burrow system occupied by a ferret. It is extremely unlikely that power line installation would negatively impact the reproductive activities of prairie dogs,

ferrets or burrowing owls. Surface disturbance involved with this action is virtually negligible and would have no possibility of affecting prairie dog or ferret populations.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no potential influence on prairie dogs as habitat for burrowing owl and black-footed ferret in the case of a no action alternative.

Mitigation: Power poles involved in this action will be designed to deter all raptor perching (i.e., crossarms and top pole) and remain effective in preventing raptor electrocution. It is requested that Moon Lake avoid drilling directly into any prairie dog burrow or mound system when installing power lines. All power line installation should involve as little vehicle travel as is necessary. It is requested in those instances where the power lines will run cross-country (not adjacent to existing road) that Moon Lake employ the technique of back-pulling when possible. It is requested that Moon Lake hand string (back-pull) those lines involving 1-2 poles (e.g., AC McLaughlin 84, Lacey 13Y and MC Hagood A18X).

See mitigation discussion in Vegetation Section regarding reclamation.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for Threatened & Endangered species: Public Land Health Standards for those special status species associated with white-tailed prairie dogs, including black-footed ferret and burrowing owl, in the Rangely Oil Field are currently met. As conditioned, this project would have no adverse influence on populations, available extent of suitable habitat, or the reproductive activities of these three species. Thus, there would be no influence on meeting the land health standard. Small incremental gains in perennial grass cover associated with successful reclamation and subsurface tillage associated with power line installation may be expected to bolster local populations of prairie dogs and potentially benefit individual burrowing owl and black-footed ferret—effects consistent with continued meeting of the Land Health Standards.

WASTES, HAZARDOUS OR SOLID

Affected Environment: There are no known hazardous or other solid wastes on the subject lands. No hazardous materials are known to have been used, stored or disposed of at sites included in the project area.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: No listed or extremely hazardous materials in excess of threshold quantities are proposed for use in this project. While commercial preparations of fuels and lubricants proposed for use may contain some hazardous constituents, they would be stored, used and transported in a manner consistent with applicable laws, and the generation of hazardous wastes would not be anticipated. Solid wastes would be properly disposed of.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: No hazardous or other solid wastes would be generated under the no-action alternative.

Mitigation: The operator shall be required to collect and properly dispose of any solid wastes generated.

WATER QUALITY, SURFACE AND GROUND (includes a finding on Standard 5)

Affected Environment: Surface Water: The proposed actions are situated within the Stinking Water Creek catchment area. Stinking Water Creek is a tributary to the White River (tributary to the Green River which is a tributary to the Colorado River) and is situated in stream segment 22 of the White River Basin. Stinking Water Creek flows primarily in response to snow melt, groundwater discharge and precipitation events (see Table 1). Table 1 contains historic water quality and flow data for Stinking Water Creek near Rangely, CO. Note that high values for specific conductance (SC) correspond with low flow periods (ground water discharge [base flow]) while lower SC values are associated with periods of higher flow. This correlation indicates that normal surface runoff is of fair water quality while SC readings taken during low flows are skewed by the geology and soil chemistry of the channel bottom at the point of measurement.

Table 1: Stinking Water Creek-Near Rangely, CO (T2N, R102W, Sect. 32 SENE)						
Date	Temp. ©	SC	рН	Type of Meas.	Discharge (cfs)	Comments
4/9/1981				OBS	0.000	Dry
5/4/1981	20	1,890	7.6	Rod	5.99	
10/13/1981	7.9	1,120	7.9	Rod	31.9	~100-200' above bridge
4/12/1982	16	30,700		Rod	0.020	~100-200' above bridge
5/11/1982	21.5	31,890		Rod	0.100	~100-200' above bridge
11/4/1982	8	16,500		Volumetric	0.005	~100-200' above bridge
4/6/1983	5.3	20,000	7.9	Rod	0.032	SC pegged meter
5/4/1983	12.8	7,940	8.3	Rod	0.425	
6/1/1983	23.8	27,000	8.3	Volumetric	0.008	Lab SC
7/11/1983				OBS	0.000	Dry
4/6/1984	8.5	9,430	8.2	Rod	0.600	
5/11/1984	21.4	3,430	8.3	Rod	2.14	
6/30/1984	26.9	20,000	8.2	Volumetric	0.004	SC pegged meter
7/24/1984	32.6	7,560	7.8	Volumetric	0.011	
9/5/1984				OBS	0.000	Dry
4/16/1985	10.1	7,580	8.2	Volumetric	0.004	
5/17/1985	22.3	12,520	8.2	Volumetric	0.005	
6/7/1985	21.1	2,140	8.4	Rod	8.33	
7/26/1985				OBS	0.000	Dry
4/10/1986	12.8	2,830	8.3	Rod	3.15	
5/29/1986	25.1	14,430	8	Volumetric	0.040	
7/2/1986				OBS	0.000	Dry
5/9/1988	22	4,920	7.9	Volumetric	0.002	
6/8/1988				OBS	0.000	Dry

A review of the Colorado's 1989 Nonpoint Source Assessment Report (plus updates), the 305(b) report, the 303(d) list, the White River ROD/RMP, and the Unified Watershed Assessment was

done to see if any water quality concerns have been identified. It should be noted that the White River from Douglas Creek to the state line is listed on the states monitoring and evaluation list (M&E list) as being sediment impaired. In addition, the White River ROD/RMP has identified this portion of the White River as NOT meeting state water quality standards for suspended sediment, salinity, and nutrients. Stinking Water Creek has been listed in the White River ROD/RMP as a proposed fragile watershed.

The State has classified stream segment 22 as "Use Protected". Stream segment 22 has been further designated by the state as being beneficial for the following uses: Warm Aquatic Life 2, Recreation 1b, and Agriculture. The antidegredation review requirements in the Antidegredation Rule are not applicable to waters designated use-protected. For those waters, only the protection specified in each reach will apply. For stream segment 22, minimum standards for four parameters have been listed. These parameters are: dissolved oxygen = $5.0 \, \text{mg/l}$, pH = 6.5 - 9.0, Fecal Coliform = $325/100 \, \text{ml}$, and $205/100 \, \text{ml}$ E. coli.

Ground Water: A review of the US Geological Survey Ground Water Atlas of the United States (Topper et al., 2003) was done to assess ground water resources at the location of the proposed actions. Information presented in Topper et al. (2003) indicates the extent of the Mesaverde aquifer encompasses the area know as the "Coal Oil Basin" north of Rangely, CO. The proposed locations are situated on the surface geologic formation known as the Mancos Shale (Cretaceous). The Mancos Shale (confining unit) has an approximate thickness of 7,000'feet. This unit is comprised primarily of shale however within the unit, the Frontier Sandstone may occur as a local aquifer which is of poor water quality (highly saline).

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Failure to successfully re-vegetate disturbed surfaces with preferred species may result in increased erosive potential and elevate sediment/salt loads to Stinking Water Creek, the White River and eventually the Colorado River.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: Mitigate potential impacts to surface water by restricting non emergency maintenance activities on power lines when soils become saturated to a depth of three inches or more (as outlined in the proposed actions). In addition, re-vegetation of disturbed surfaces with BLM preferred seed mixture as outlined in the vegetation section of this document will help mitigate potential for increased sedimentation and salt loads to surface waters.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for water quality: Stream segment 22 is currently listed as meeting water quality standards. Stinking Water Creek is a tributary to the White River (Segment 21) which is listed on the states M&E list for sediment impairment, any increase in sedimentation to Stinking Water Creek will directly impact segment 21 of the White River. However, with suggested mitigation, water quality within the Stinking Water Creek catchment area will remain unchanged and no deterioration of water quality down stream is anticipated as a result of the proposed actions.

WETLANDS AND RIPARIAN ZONES (includes a finding on Standard 2)

Affected Environment: There are no wetlands or riparian habitat that would conceivably be affected by this action. The White River, representing the nearest aquatic habitat, is separated from the project area by about eight miles of ephemeral channel.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: None

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: None

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for riparian systems: This project would have no conceivable potential for influencing riparian attributes addressed in the Standards.

CRITICAL ELEMENTS NOT PRESENT OR NOT AFFECTED:

No ACEC's, flood plains, prime and unique farmlands, or Wild and Scenic Rivers, threatened, endangered or sensitive plants exist within the area affected by the proposed action. For threatened, endangered and sensitive plant species Public Land Health Standard is not applicable since neither the proposed nor the no-action alternative would have any influence on populations of, or habitats potentially occupied by, special status plants. There are also no Native American religious or environmental justice concerns associated with the proposed action.

NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS

The following elements **must** be addressed due to the involvement of Standards for Public Land Health:

SOILS (includes a finding on Standard 1)

Affected Environment: The following data is a product of an order III soil survey conducted by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The accompanying table highlights important soil characteristics. A complete summary of this information can be found at the White River Field Office.

Soil Number	Soil Name	Slope	Affected acres w/in 10 m radius	Ecological site	Salinity	Run Off	Erosion Potential	Bedrock
7	Billings silty clay loam	0-5%	0.68	Alkaline Slopes	2-8	Rapid	Moderate to high	>60
16	Chipeta silty clay loam	3-25%	3.31	Clayey Saltdesert	4-16	Rapid	High	10-20

Control surface use (CSU-1) "saline soils" have been encountered at all of the five locations. Within a 10 meter radius, 3.37 acres of "saline soils" (~85% of all affected acreage) will be impacted by construction of the power line extensions. However, given the degree of previous surface disturbance in the area, lack of topography, and suggested mitigation, an engineered construction/reclamation plan will NOT be required for the proposed actions.

7-Billings silty clay loam (0 to 5 percent slopes) is a deep, well drained soil found on alluvial valley floors, flood plains, narrow valley floors, and terraces. It formed in calcareous, silty alluvium derived dominantly from shale. The native vegetation is mainly desert shrubs and grasses. Elevation is 5,100 to 5,800 feet. The average annual precipitation is 6 to 8 inches, the average annual air temperature is 47 to 49 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 105 to 135 days. Typically, the upper part of the surface layer is light gray silty clay loam about 2 inches thick. The lower part is pale brown silty clay loam about 4 inches thick. The underlying material to a depth of 60 inches or more is silty clay loam that has a few fine gypsum crystals. Permeability of this Billings soil is slow. Available water capacity is high. Effective rooting depth is 60 inches or more. Runoff is rapid, and the hazard of water erosion is moderate to high.

16-Chipeta silty clay loam (3 to 25 percent slopes) is a shallow, well drained soil located on low, rolling hills and on toe slopes. It formed in residuum derived from calcareous, gypsiferous shale. The native vegetation is mainly salt-tolerant shrubs and grasses. Elevation is 5,100 to 5,800 feet. The average annual precipitation is 7 to 9 inches, the average annual air temperature is 46 to 50 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 105 to 135 days. Typically, the surface layer is light brownish gray silty clay loam about 3 inches thick. The next layer is light olive gray silty clay about 6 inches thick. The underlying material is light olive gray silty clay that has fine shale chips and seams of crystalline gypsum and is about 9 inches thick. Shale is at a depth of 18 inches. Depth to shale ranges from 10 to 20 inches. Permeability of this Chipeta soil is slow. Available water capacity is low. Effective rooting depth is 10 to 20 inches. Runoff is rapid, and the hazard of water erosion is high. This unit is poorly suited to urban development.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Given the calcareous/ gypsiferous nature of the affected soils the potential for soil piping and gully formation will increase as surface disturbing activities further expose soils to erosional processes. Construction of the proposed power-line extensions may result in increased soil compaction which will reduce infiltration and permeability rates increasing the erosive potential of overland flows.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: Utility truck traffic should be kept to a minimum to reduce the potential impacts of soil compaction. To mitigate potential for soil erosion, all disturbed surfaces should be promptly revegetated with the appropriate seed mixture as outlined in the vegetation section of this document.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for upland soils: Predominance of cheat grass, halogeton, and other non desirable plant species combined with existing oil and gas developments (roads, well pads, pipe lines, power lines ...) have reduced infiltration and

permeability rates resulting in increased rates of soil erosion. As a result, these locations do not meet standards for upland soils. With suggested mitigation as outlined in the water quality section of this document, soil health near the proposed actions can move towards achieving land health standards.

VEGETATION (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: The proposed action is located within Clayey Saltdesert and Alkaline Slope ecological sites, which are dominated by salt tolerant vegetation. The dominate plant community for these sites consist of greasewood (Sarcobatus vermiculatus) and various saltbrushes such as shadscale (Atriplex confertifolia), gardner saltbrush (Atriplex gardneri), mat saltbush (Atriplex corrugate), and fourwing saltbrush (Atriplex canescens). Other brushes intermixed in the area are various rabbitbrushes (Chrysothamnus spp.) and Wyoming big sagebrush (Artemisia tridentata). The understory of these shrubs primarily consists of western wheatgrass (Agropyron smithii), salina wildrye (Elymus salinus), sandberg bluegrass (poa secunda), and bottlebrush squirreltail (Sitanion hystrix). Cheatgrass (Bromus tectorum) and halogeton (Halogeton glomeratus) are undesirable, invasive, and alien plant species that are present within the locality of the proposed action.

The soils within the project area are principally Chipeta Silty Clay Loam, 0-25% slopes (Clayey Saltdesert ecological site) and Billings Silty Clay Loam, 0-5% Slopes (Alkaline Slope ecological site). These soil types have a high clay content that is moderate to highly erosive and receives low precipitation with rapid runoff, thus limiting vegetative production and hampering revegetation efforts.

Drought conditions, outside of this current year, have been very prevalent within the Coal Oil Basin area which has hampered the successful establishment of reclaimed plant species of other projects in this area. Therefore, undesirable and invasive annual plant species (i.e. halogeton, cheatgrass) have become dominant in portions of previously disturbed areas which provide little resource value and hinder efforts to meet Public Land Health Standards.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed action would disturb a mid to low seral class of saltdesert shrub community for a total of 2.4 BLM acres considered short term. These short-term soil and vegetation disturbances would be offset by successfully reclaiming the disturbed area with a seed mix that is suited for this ecological site. As this area has a component of cheatgrass and halogeton (undesirable, non-native, and annual plant species) within the plant community, successful re-vegetation efforts would slightly increase desirable plant species within the rangelands.

Without successful reclamation of seeded species within this harsh landscape, a potential exist to increase the ground cover of undesirable plant species that invade disturbed sites. Limiting factors for successful reclamation of the site includes soils with a high clay content, low annual precipitation, drought prone, grazing use, and cheatgrass (invasive, non-native, and annual grass) establishment on the adjacent rangelands.

Previously this area has entailed considerable impacts from oil and gas activities from a network of well pads, power lines, pipeline corridors, and access roads; which have resulted in a fragmentation and reduction of available/productive ecological sites.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: Promptly re-vegetate all disturbed areas with Standard Seed Mix #1 of the White River ROD/RMP, B-19, Appendix B (see table below). Seeding rates in the White River ROD/RMP are shown as pounds of Pure Live Seed (PLS) per acre and apply to drill seeding. For broadcast application, double the seeding rate and then harrow to insure seed coverage. Applied seed must be certified and free of noxious weeds. The applicant will be responsible for controlling cheatgrass, noxious weeds, and/or problem weeds should they occur and/or increase in density as a result of the proposed action. To control undesirable plant species, the applicant will use materials and methods as outlined in the RMP or authorized in advance by the White River Field Office Manager.

Standard Seed Mix #	Species (Variety)	Lbs PLS/Acre
1	Siberian wheatgrass (P27)	3
	Russian wildrye (Bozoisky)	2
	Crested wheatgrass (Hycrest)	3

The applicant shall be required to achieve a reclamation success rate of sufficient vegetative ground cover from reclamation plant species within three growing seasons. The reclamation shall be comparable of that of the nearby undisturbed plant communities at a Potential Natural Community (PNC) state in relation to the seed mix as deemed appropriate by the BLM.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Wildlife, Aquatic and Wildlife, Terrestrial): The proposed action would disturb a segment of the Alkaline Slope and Clayey Saltdesert ecological sites. Therefore, the action would further fragment these areas to a minimal degree.

Early seral ecological sites associated with the proposed action lack desirable plant species at an appreciable density and frequency level, thus they are not meeting standards. This is largely due to the prevalence of cheatgrass and halogeton within the vegetative understory. Mid seral ecological sites at the proposed action locality have acceptable components within the plant community and are meeting standards for public land health.

WILDLIFE, AQUATIC (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: There are no aquatic habitats conceivably affected by this action. The White River, representing the nearest aquatic habitat, is separated from the project area by about eight miles of ephemeral channel.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: None

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: None

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Vegetation and Wildlife, Terrestrial): This project would have no conceivable influence on aquatic wildlife or habitat conditions addressed in the Standards

WILDLIFE, TERRESTRIAL (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: This heavily developed portion of Coal Oil Basin is inhabited year-round by a small resident herd of pronghorn. These animals are acclimated to routine oil and gas production activities. A number of raptors forage opportunistically during the winter in Coal Oil Basin, the most common being rough-legged hawks, red-tailed hawks, and golden eagle. The project area and the surrounding area provide no special or unique habitat features in regards to nesting substrate.

Small mammal populations and distribution are poorly documented; however, the species potentially occurring throughout this area are widely distributed throughout the State and the Great Basin and Rocky Mountain regions. No narrowly distributed or highly specialized species or subspecific populations are known to occur in the project area.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: This project would have no conceivable adverse consequences on big game distribution or habitat quality as it involves minimal surface disturbance with virtually no removal of woody forage.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no potential influence on big game distribution or habitat quality in the case of a no action alternative.

Mitigation: See mitigation discussion in T&E Section above.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Vegetation and Wildlife, Aquatic): This project would not jeopardize the viability of any animal population. It would have no significant consequence on terrestrial habitat condition, utility, or function, nor have any discernible effect on animal abundance or distribution at any landscape scale. The public land health standard will thus be met.

<u>OTHER NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS</u>: For the following elements, only those brought forward for analysis will be addressed further.

Non-Critical Element	NA or Not	Applicable or Present, No Impact	Applicable & Present and Brought Forward for
	Present		Analysis
Access and Transportation		X	

Non-Critical Element	NA or	Applicable or	Applicable & Present and
	Not	Present, No Impact	Brought Forward for
	Present		Analysis
Cadastral Survey	X		
Fire Management	X		
Forest Management	X		
Geology and Minerals		X	
Hydrology/Water Rights	X		
Law Enforcement		X	
Noise		X	
Paleontology			X
Rangeland Management			X
Realty Authorizations			X
Recreation		X	
Socio-Economics		X	
Visual Resources	_	_	X
Wild Horses	X		

PALEONTOLOGY

Affected Environment: The proposed power line routes are located in an area generally mapped as Mancos Shale, which the BLM, WRFO has classified as a Condition II fossil formation meaning that while it is known to produce fossils they are mostly invertebrate marine fossils. Rarely vertebrate fossils may be encountered. Vertebrate fossils from the Mancos Shale are considered to be of scientific interest

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: There is a slight possibility that excavations could impact fossil resources. Should the impacts occur to marine invertebrates the loss of data is not considered noteworthy. However, should the fossils impacted turn out to be rare vertebrates the loss would be considered highly noteworthy and an unfortunate loss of significant scientific data.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no new impacts to fossil resources under the No Action Alternative.

Mitigation: 1. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing paleontological sites, or for collecting fossils. If fossil materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:

- whether the materials appear to be of noteworthy scientific interest
- the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not feasible)

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

Affected Environment: The proposed action is located in the Coal Oil Basin section of the Artesia allotment (06308), which is authorized for sheep use by Morapos Sheep Company. Grazing use by sheep in the allotment can be authorized from December 1st through April 20th.

Soils within the project area are principally Chipeta Silty Clay Loam, 3-25% Slopes (Clayey Saltdesert ecological site) and Billings Silty Clay Loam, 0-5% Slopes (Alkaline Slope ecological site), which are dominated by a salt tolerant desert shrub and grass community. These brush/grass communities are utilized by sheep for meeting forage requirements, particularly during winter months. Soils in Coal Oil Basin typically have a high clay content that are moderate to highly erosive and receives low precipitation with rapid runoff, thus limiting forage production and hampering re-vegetation efforts.

Drought conditions, outside of this current year, have been very prevalent within the Coal Oil Basin area, which has hindered successful establishment of reclaimed plant species of other related disturbances in this area. Therefore, undesirable and invasive annual plant species (i.e. halogeton, cheatgrass) have become dominate in a portion of these disturbed areas which provide little forage and/or resource value.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The individual proposed action would have minimal impacts on the authorized grazing use because the amount of new surface disturbance (2.4 BLM acres) is nominal in regards to the scale of the allotment (44,026 BLM acres).

The 2.4 BLM acres of disturbance that has occurred is considered a short term disturbance with successful rehabilitation. Therefore, there is no opportunity of long-term active Animal Unit Month (AUM) loss associated with the individual proposed action. An AUM is the amount of forage necessary for the substance of 5 sheep (1 cow) for a period of 1 month. However, previously this allotment has entailed considerable impacts from oil and gas activities, which have resulted in a reduction and fragmentation of available rangelands and in a loss of forage for grazing use.

Without successful reclamation of seeded species within this harsh rangeland, a potential exist to increase the ground cover of undesirable plant species that invade disturbed sites, thus decreasing available forage for livestock.

Potential impacts to livestock include a modification in sheep distribution, reduction in available forage, injury/loss to livestock, and impediments to livestock grazing and movement.

Overall, this individual proposed action would have no significant direct impact on the authorized AUMs in the allotments. However, the cumulative impacts from past, present, and possible future oil and gas activities may have a long-term effect on the native rangeland's carrying capacity, thus influencing authorized AUMs. This possible affect would be determined during the grazing permit renewal process which includes an evaluation of forage capacity available for livestock. It is foreseeable that the grazing permit holder could loose a portion of permitted active AUMs due to a loss of forage and fragmentation of the rangelands associated with oil and gas development within the authorized BLM grazing allotment.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: Any livestock control facilities and/or rangeland improvements impacted during this operation will be replaced or repaired to their prior condition.

REALTY AUTHORIZATIONS

Affected Environment: The projects will take place in the existing Rangely oil field. This is a developed field with an electrical system network to serve the Chevron operation. Chevron operations are permitted with APDs within the lease and unit boundaries. Power lines are authorized by grant to Moon Lake Electric.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Power lines to the MC Hagood A15X, A17X, and A18X will be authorized as an amendment to COC34348. Lines to the Lacy 13Y and MC McLaughlin 84Y will be authorized as an amendment to COC37824.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: none

Mitigation: no additional

VISUAL RESOURCES

Affected Environment: The proposed action would be located in an area with a VRM IV classification. The objective of this class is to provide for management activities which require major modification of the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape can be high. These management activities may dominate the view and be the major focus of viewer attention. However, every attempt should be made to minimize the impact of these activities through careful location, minimal disturbance, and repeating the basic elements.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed action would be in an area that presently has numerous existing power poles, power lines, oil producing facilities

and other man made structures. By using non-reflective conductors as stated in proposed action, a casual observer traveling in the area would not have their major focus of attention drawn to the new power lines. Modification to the existing character of the landscape would be low and the objectives of the VRM IV classification would be retained.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no impact.

Mitigation: None

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY: The Cumulative impacts of oil and gas developments in this area were analyzed in the White River ROD/RMP, based on a reasonable foreseeable development scenario which assumed a total of ten acres per well pad. This action is consistent with the scope of impacts addressed in the White River ROD/RMP. The cumulative impacts of this type of activity, was addressed in the White River ROD/RMP for each resource value that would be affected by the proposed action. These power line extensions will serve wells within the Chevron Rangely Field, a developed area, and will not significantly increase cumulative impacts.

REFERENCES CITED:

Larralde, Signa L.

1981 Cultural Resource Inventory of a Sample of BLM Lands in the Rangely Oil Field, Rio Blanco County, Northwestern Colorado. Nickens and Associates, Montrose, Colorado.

Topper, R., K.L. Spray, W.H. Bellis, J.L. Hamilton, and P.E. Barkmann. 2003. Groundwater Atlas of Colorado, Special Publication 53. Prepared for State of Colorado Department of Natural Resources, Division of Minerals and Geology. Colorado Geological Survey. Denver, Colorado.

Tweto, Ogden

1979 Geologic Map of Colorado. United States Geologic Survey, Department of the Interior, Reston, Virginia.

PERSONS / AGENCIES CONSULTED: None

<u>INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:</u>

Name	Title	Area of Responsibility	
Nate Dieterich	Hydrologist	Air Quality	
Tamara Meagley	Natural Resource Specialist	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	
Tamara Meagley	Natural Resource Specialist	Threatened and Endangered Plant Species	
Michael Selle	Archeologist	Cultural Resources Paleontological Resources	
Jed Carling	Rangeland Management Specialist	Invasive, Non-Native Species	
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Migratory Birds	
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Animal Species, Wildlife	
Melissa Kindall	Hazmat Collateral	Wastes, Hazardous or Solid	
Nate Dieterich	Hydrologist	Water Quality, Surface and Ground Hydrology and Water Rights	
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Wetlands and Riparian Zones	
Chris Ham	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Wilderness	
Nate Dieterich	Hydrologist	Soils	
Jed Carling	Rangeland Management Specialist	Vegetation	
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Wildlife Terrestrial and Aquatic	
Chris Ham	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Access and Transportation	
Ken Holsinger	Natural Resource Specialist	Fire Management	
Robert Fowler	Forester	Forest Management	
Paul Daggett	Mining Engineer	Geology and Minerals	
Jed Carling	Rangeland Management Specialist	Rangeland Management	
Linda Jones	Realty Specialist	Realty Authorizations	
Chris Ham	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Recreation	
Keith Whitaker	Natural Resource Specialist	Visual Resources	
Valerie Dobrich	Natural Resource Specialist	Wild Horses	

Finding of No Significant Impact/Decision Record (FONSI/DR)

CO-110-2006-024-EA

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)/RATIONALE: The environmental assessment and analyzing the environmental effects of the proposed action have been reviewed. The approved mitigation measures (listed below) result in a Finding of No Significant Impact on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not necessary to further analyze the environmental effects of the proposed action.

<u>**DECISION/RATIONALE**</u>: It is my decision to approve the authorization for the construction, operation, maintenance, and termination of five, overhead, three-phase, 12.5kV power line extensions to serve wells in the Rangely Chevron Oil Field as described in the proposed action, with the mitigation measures listed below. This development, with mitigation, is consistent with the decisions in the White River ROD/RMP, and environmental impacts will be minimal.

MITIGATION MEASURES:

- 1. Power poles involved in this action will be designed to deter all raptor perching (i.e., crossarms and top pole) and remain effective in preventing raptor electrocution. Moon Lake shall avoid drilling directly into any prairie dog burrow or mound system when installing power lines.
- 2. All power line installation should involve as little vehicle travel as is necessary. In those instances where the power lines will run cross-country (not adjacent to existing road), Moon Lake will employ the technique of back-pulling when possible. Moon Lake will hand string (back-pull) those lines involving 1-2 poles (e.g., AC McLaughlin 84, Lacey 13Y and MC Hagood A18X).
- 3. The applicant shall monitor the disturbed and reclaimed areas for the presence of invasive, non-native, and/or noxious plant species that have become established as a result of the proposed action. The applicant will be responsible for controlling cheatgrass, noxious weeds, and/or problem weeds should they occur and/or increase in density as a result of the proposed action. Upon detection of noxious, non-native, and/or invasive plant species, the applicant will control their presence before seed production using materials and methods as outlined in the RMP and/or authorized in advance by the White River Field Office Manager. Application of herbicides must be under field supervision of an EPA certified pesticide applicator. Herbicides must be registered by the EPA and application proposals must be approved by the BLM.
- 4. Any livestock control facilities and/or rangeland improvements impacted during this operation will be replaced or repaired to their prior condition.

- 5. The operator shall be required to collect and properly dispose of any solid wastes generated.
- 6. Potential impacts to surface water shall be mitigated by restricting non emergency maintenance activities on power lines when soils become saturated to a depth of three inches or more (as outlined in the proposed actions). Utility truck traffic shall be kept to a minimum to reduce the potential impacts of soil compaction.
- 7. All disturbed areas shall be promptly re-vegetated with Standard Seed Mix #1 of the White River Resource Area Resource Management Plan (RMP), B-19, Appendix B (see table below). Seeding rates in the RMP are shown as pounds of Pure Live Seed (PLS) per acre and apply to drill seeding. For broadcast application, double the seeding rate and then harrow to insure seed coverage. Applied seed must be certified and free of noxious weeds. The applicant will be responsible for controlling cheatgrass, noxious weeds, and/or problem weeds should they occur and/or increase in density as a result of the proposed action. To control undesirable plant species, the applicant will use materials and methods as outlined in the RMP or authorized in advance by the White River Field Office Manager.

Standard Seed Mix #	Species (Variety)	Lbs PLS/Acre
1	Siberian wheatgrass (P27)	3
	Russian wildrye (Bozoisky)	2
	Crested wheatgrass (Hycrest)	3

The applicant shall be required to achieve a reclamation success rate of sufficient vegetative ground cover from reclamation plant species within three growing seasons. The reclamation shall be comparable of that of the nearby undisturbed plant communities at a Potential Natural Community (PNC) state in relation to the seed mix as deemed appropriate by the BLM.

- 8. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing paleontological sites, or for collecting fossils. If fossil materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:
 - whether the materials appear to be of noteworthy scientific interest
 - the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not feasible)

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

- 9. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:
 - whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
 - the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not necessary)
 - a timeframe for the AO to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800-11 to confirm, through the State Historic Preservation Officer, that the findings of the AO are correct and that mitigation is appropriate.

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

10. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) the holder of this authorization must notify the AO, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer.

<u>COMPLIANCE/MONITORING</u>: Compliance monitoring shall be performed every five years by White River Field Office Staff.

NAME OF PREPARER: Linda Jones

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Caroline Hollowed

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:

Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: 04/03/06

ATTACHMENTS: Exhibit A: Moon Lake Power lines

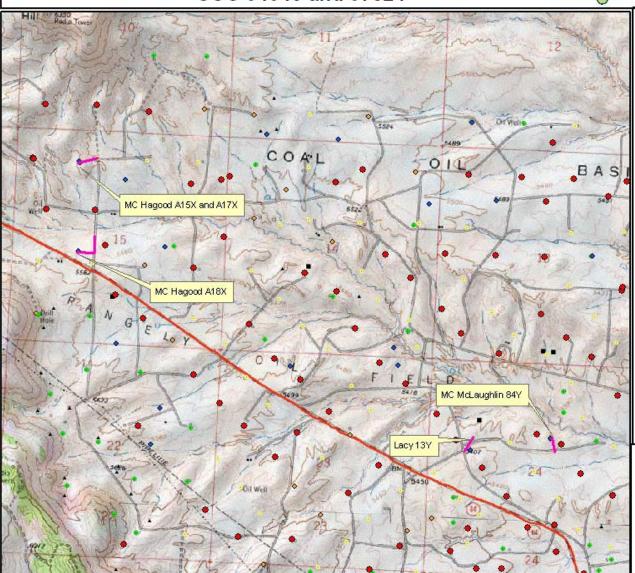
CO-110-2006-024-EA 23

MOON LAKE POWER LINES FOR CHEVRON COC 34348 and 37824



EXHIBIT A

CO110-06-024-EA



Legend

- Abandoned Location
- Dry & Abandoned
- DM
- Injection
- Plugged&Abandoned
- Producing
- Shut In
- Temp& Abandoned
- Unknown
- Verbal Plugging
- · Waiting on Completion
- XX

Major roads

RD_CODE

- Highway
 County
- County
- --- NPS
- Forest service
- BLM

6th PM T1S R103W secs. 15 and 24

1:24,000

